

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) An information management apparatus for generating an image to be displayed on a predetermined information processing terminal, the information management apparatus comprising:

generating means for generating a first authentication image to be used to authenticate a user based on a predetermined original image,

providing means for providing the information processing terminal with the first authentication image generated by the generating means,

authenticating means for authenticating the first authentication image which is provided by the information processing terminal through a control device that controls the reading of an image displayed on the information processing terminal, and

display control means for displaying a second authentication image instead of the first authentication image displayed on the information processing terminal when the authenticating means verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

4. (Previously Presented) An information management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the generating means generates further the second authentication image when the authentication means verifies that the first authentication image is authentic, and

the display control means displays the second authentication image on the information processing terminal by providing the information processing terminal with the second authentication image generated by the generating means.

5. (Previously Presented) An information management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the generating means generates the first authentication image containing a first amount of information based on a first amount of money already paid by the user.

6. (Previously presented) An information management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the generating means subtracts an amount spent by the user from the amount represented by the first amount of information when the authenticating means verifies that the first authentication image is authentic, and generates the second authentication image containing a second amount of information based on a resulting remaining amount of money.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) An information management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein each of the first authentication image and the second authentication image is one of a still image and a moving image.

9. (Original) An information management method for an information management apparatus for generating an image to be displayed on a predetermined information processing terminal, the information management method comprising:

a generating step for generating a first authentication image to be used to authenticate a user based on a predetermined original image,

a providing step for providing the information processing terminal with the first authentication image generated in the generating step,

an authenticating step for authenticating the first authentication image which is provided by the information processing terminal through a control device that controls the reading of an image displayed on the information processing terminal, and

a display control step for displaying a second authentication image instead of the first authentication image displayed on the information processing terminal when the authenticating step verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium tangibly embodying computer-executable instructions~~A computer program product, stored on a computer-readable medium, for generating an image to be presented on a predetermined information processing terminal, the instructions comprising instructions for the computer program comprising program codes for performing:~~

a generating step for generating a first authentication image to be used to authenticate a user based on a predetermined original image,

a providing step for providing the information processing terminal with the first authentication image generated in the generating step,

an authenticating step for authenticating the first authentication image which is provided by the information processing terminal through a control device that controls the reading of an image displayed on the information processing terminal, and

a display control step for displaying a second authentication image instead of the first authentication image displayed on the information processing terminal when the authenticating step verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

11. (Currently Amended) An information processing terminal for displaying an authentication image provided by an information management apparatus that generates the authentication image to be used to authenticate a user, the information processing terminal comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring a first authentication image generated based on a predetermined original image,

display means for displaying the first authentication image acquired by the acquisition means, and

providing means for providing the information management apparatus with the first authentication image, displayed by the display means, through a control device that controls the reading of an image,

wherein the display means displays the second authentication image instead of the first authentication image when the information management apparatus verifies that the first authentication image provided by the providing means is authentic;

wherein the first authentication image contains a first amount of information based on a first amount of money already paid by the user.

12. (Previously Presented) An information processing terminal according to claim 11, wherein the acquisition means further acquires the second authentication image from the information management apparatus when the first authentication image provided by the providing means is verified as being authentic, and

the display means displays the second authentication image acquired by the acquisition means instead of the first authentication image.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An information processing terminal according to claim ~~13~~11, wherein the second authentication image contains a second amount of information based on a remaining amount which is obtained by subtracting an amount spent by the user from the amount represented by the first amount of information.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for an information processing terminal for displaying an authentication image provided by an information management apparatus that generates the authentication image to be used to authenticate a user, the information processing method comprising:
an acquisition step for acquiring a first authentication image generated based on a predetermined original image,

a display step for displaying the first authentication image acquired in the acquisition step,
and

a providing step for providing the information management apparatus with the first authentication image, displayed in the display step, through a control device that controls the reading of an image,

wherein the display step comprises displaying the second authentication image instead of the first authentication image when the information management apparatus verifies that the first authentication image provided in the providing step is authentic; and

wherein the first authentication image contains a first amount of information based on a first amount of money already paid by the user.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) An information management system comprising:

an information management apparatus comprising:

an authentication image generator adapted to generate a first authentication image based on a predetermined original image;

an authentication image provider adapted to provide an information processing terminal with the first authentication image;

an authenticator adapted to authenticate whether an image provided by a transaction processing terminal is the first authentication image;

a first display controller adapted to cause the information processing terminal to display and store a second authentication image in place of the first authentication image after the authenticator verifies that the first authentication image is authentic; and

the information processing terminal that comprising:

a first image acquisition unit adapted to acquire the first authentication image from the information management apparatus;

a second display controller adapted to display the authentication image stored in a storage unit;

an image output unit for providing the first authentication image to the transaction processing terminal; and

the transaction processing terminal comprising:

- a second image acquisition unit adapted to acquire the first authentication image from the information processing terminal;
- an authentication requesting unit for requesting verification that the first authentication image is authentic and providing the information management apparatus with the first authentication image from the information processing terminal;
- an image rewriter for replacing the first authentication image with a second authentication image in the information processing terminal, after the information management apparatus verifies that the first authentication image is authentic;
- a third display controller adapted to display the first authentication image while the authentication request unit verifies the first image is authentic, and displays a second authentication image instead of the first authentication image after the information management apparatus verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

20. (New) An information management apparatus for generating an image displayed on a information processing terminal, the information management apparatus comprising:

- an authentication image generator adapted to generate a first authentication image based on at least one predetermined original image;
- an authentication image provider adapted to provide an information processing terminal with the first authentication image;

an authenticator adapted to authenticate whether an image provided by a transaction processing terminal is the first authentication image;

a display controller adapted to cause the information processing terminal to display and store a second authentication image, on the information processing terminal, in place of the first authentication image after the authenticator verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

21. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the at least one predetermined original image is provided to the information management apparatus by the information processing terminal.

22. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the each authentication image produced by the information management apparatus is produced from a plurality of predetermined original images.

23. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the each authentication image produced by the information management apparatus is produced from at least one unique predetermined original image.

24. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 20, wherein, the authentication image generator generates the second authentication image after the authenticator verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

25. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the first authentication image contains information including an amount of money.

26. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the first authentication image further contains information further including at least one of a user name, date when the image was generated, a password, and identification.

27. (New) An information management apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the during the verification of the first authentication image, and prior to generating the second authentication image, the authentication image generator subtracts an amount spent by the user from the amount of money represented in the first authenticated image to determine a remaining amount of money, and then generates the second authentication image containing information including the remaining amount of money.

28. (New) An transaction processing terminal for displaying an authentication image provided by an information management apparatus that generates the authentication image to be used to authenticate a user, the transaction processing terminal comprising:

- an first image acquisition unit adapted to acquire the first authentication image from a information processing terminal, wherein the information processing terminal includes a second image acquisition unit for acquiring the authentication image from the information management apparatus;
- an authentication requesting unit for providing the information management apparatus with the first authentication image;

an image rewriter for replacing the first authentication image with a second authentication image in the information processing terminal after the information management apparatus verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

29. (New) A transaction processing terminal according to claim 28, further comprising: a display controller adapted to display the first authentication image while the authentication request unit verifies the first image is authentic, and display a second authentication image instead of the first authentication image after the information management apparatus verifies that the first authentication image is authentic.

30. (New) A transaction processing terminal according to claim 28, wherein the image acquisition unit in the information processing terminal acquires the second authentication image from the information management apparatus after the first authentication image provided by the providing means is verified as being authentic.

31. (New) A transaction processing terminal according to claim 28, wherein the first authentication image contains information including an amount of money.

32. (New) A transaction processing terminal according to claim 28, wherein during the verification of the first authentication image, and prior to generating the second authentication image, the authentication image generator subtracts an amount spent by the user from the first amount to determine a remaining amount of money, and then generates the second authentication image to contain information including the remaining amount of money.